



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



At the beginning of the week prices were lower in Florida and Ohio, unchanged elsewhere. During the week prices were unchanged. Trade Sentiment ranged steady to instances firm, mostly steady to fully steady. East of the Rockies supplies were mixed usually adequate to instances ample. However, on the West cost, most inventories were well balanced. Nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate or available for the current light demand. The trade sentiment was mostly steady to occasionally fully steady. Light type fowl were fully adequate for current processors' requirements.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

| | EXTRA LARGE | LARGE | MEDIUM |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|
| NORTHEAST CITIES | | | |
| Boston (Brown) | 89-91 | 82-84 | 59-61 |
| New York | 56-58 | 53-56 | 44-47 |
| Philadelphia | 54-56 | 52-54 | 43-44 |
| SOUTHERN CITIES | | | |
| Atlanta (1) (2) | 47-48 | 45.5-47 | 37-38 |
| Jackson (1) | 57-58 | 54-55 | 46-47 |
| Major Louisiana Cities (1) | 54-67 | 51-65 | 41-55 |
| MIDWEST CITIES | | | |
| Chicago | 46-51 | 45-50 | 35-40 |
| Detroit (2) | 43-46 | 42-45 | 31-34 |
| Major Ohio Cities (2) | 44-49 | 43-47 | 32-37 |
| Major Wisconsin Cities | 47-54 | 45-52 | 35-42 |
| WESTERN CITIES | | | |
| Houston (1) | 62-65 | 59-61 | 48-49 |
| California(Grade AA)(1)(3) | 84 | 77 | 67 |
| (1) - Prices reported weekly | | | |
| (2) - Delivered Warehouse | | | |
| (3) - Reported Invoice prices | | | |

SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA FOR WEEK ENDING 3-Mar-00
AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

| REGIONS | EX LARGE | LARGE | MEDIUM |
|--------------------|----------|-------|--------|
| NORTHEAST | 57.00 | 54.62 | 45.50 |
| SOUTHERN | 55.23 | 53.10 | 42.30 |
| MIDWEST | 47.59 | 46.43 | 35.92 |
| WESTERN | 84.81 | 78.38 | 60.17 |
| TWELVE METRO AREAS | 64.83 | 61.27 | 48.28 |

COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN. PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN

| | 03-07-00 | 02-29-00 | 03-09-99 |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|
| Large | 26-28 | 26-28 | 43-45 |
| Medium | 17-19 | 17-19 | 32-34 |

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- AM Mar 06, 2000
STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

| | | | NO | SO | SO | | 5-Area |
|----------|---------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| | | Northeast | CENT | CENT | Atl | Pacific | |
| Jumbo | Curr Wk | 8.0 | 12.4 | 5.5 | 13.9 | 8.6 | 48.4 |
| | Change | -2.2 | -0.5 | -0.6 | 0.3 | -1.7 | -9% |
| Ex Lge | Curr Wk | 23.1 | 30.8 | 10.3 | 29.0 | 21.2 | 114.4 |
| | Change | -1.6 | -4.1 | -0.4 | 1.9 | -1.6 | -5% |
| Large | Curr Wk | 49.6 | 84.5 | 59.6 | 76.5 | 86.7 | 356.9 |
| | Change | -0.3 | -5.5 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 4.6 | 1% |
| Medium | Curr Wk | 14.5 | 27.3 | 14.7 | 25.5 | 19.5 | 101.5 |
| | Change | -4.2 | -2.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | -6% |
| Small | Curr Wk | 4.0 | 8.6 | 1.3 | 7.9 | 5.6 | 27.4 |
| | Change | -1.0 | 1.3 | -1.4 | 0.2 | 0.0 | -3% |
| Misc | Curr Wk | 4.8 | 13.7 | 6.4 | 11.4 | 7.2 | 43.5 |
| | Change | 0.3 | -4.4 | -1.6 | -0.5 | 0.2 | -12% |
| Ungraded | Curr Wk | 33.9 | 63.1 | 14.0 | 41.6 | 49.9 | 202.5 |
| | Change | 3.9 | 8.3 | 1.9 | 10.6 | 1.8 | 15% |
| Total | Curr Wk | 137.9 | 240.4 | 111.8 | 205.8 | 198.7 | 894.6 |
| Percent | Change | -4% | -3% | 2% | 7% | 2% | 1% |

| TOTAL | Number of Cases | Percent Change | Number of Cooperators |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Shell Egg | 894.6 | 1% | 166 |
| Shell Egg Breaking Stock | 420.8 | 1% | 40 |

Total Shell Egg 1315.4 1% 206
1/Information is supplied by a universe of 166 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 04-MAR-00

| | (LBS IN THOUSANDS) | | (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS) | | | |
|------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|--------|--------|
| | CASES BROKEN | LIQUID WHOLE | LIQUID WHITE | LIQUID YOLK | DRIED | INED. |
| CW | 1,156,749 | 25,117 | 12,351 | 6,711 | 2,952 | 3,807 |
| PW | 1,183,413 | 24,590 | 13,315 | 6,965 | 3,095 | 3,698 |
| LY | 1,038,512 | 23,740 | 10,195 | 5,845 | 2,560 | 3,219 |
| % PW | -2 | 2 | -7 | -4 | -5 | 3 |
| % LY | 11 | 6 | 21 | 15 | 15 | 18 |
| 2000 | 10,138,518 | 224,890 | 104,470 | 57,149 | 28,163 | 33,527 |
| 1999 | 9,303,369 | 209,627 | 92,275 | 51,644 | 23,907 | 29,338 |

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -**CURRENT PREVIOUS LAST****WEEK WEEK YEAR**

41.48 41.04 41.40

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT FOR W/E 04-MAR-00

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

| REGIONS | CASES (IN THOUS) | PERCENT PREVIOUS WEEK | CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| N. ATLANTIC | 222.3 | 3 | -7 |
| E.N. CENTRAL | 470.0 | -1 | -5 |
| W.N. CENTRAL | 246.3 | 0 | 3 |
| S. ATLANTIC | 189.1 | 3 | -7 |
| S. CENTRAL | 66.4 | -12 | -19 |
| WEST | 184.5 | -4 | -39 |
| TOTAL | 1,378.6 | 0 | -12 |
| MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING | | 92 | 92 |

| STATE | Broiler Eggs Set in 15 Selected States | | Broiler Chicks Placed in 15 Selected States | |
|----------------|---|---------|--|---------|
| | FEB 26 | MAR 04 | FEB 26 | MAR 04 |
| | Thousand | | | |
| AL | *29,036 | 28,727 | *21,193 | 20,572 |
| AR | *30,009 | 30,063 | 23,384 | 24,043 |
| DE | 4,545 | 4,458 | 4,202 | 4,819 |
| FL | 2,844 | 2,836 | 2,282 | 2,232 |
| GA | 31,799 | 31,837 | *24,691 | 24,049 |
| MD | 8,586 | 8,966 | 6,092 | 5,694 |
| MS | 17,392 | 17,693 | 14,596 | 14,704 |
| NC | 17,512 | 18,281 | 12,605 | 13,134 |
| PA | *3,389 | 3,627 | *2,724 | 2,564 |
| SC | 4,939 | 4,912 | 3,903 | 3,773 |
| TX | *14,440 | 14,603 | *11,144 | 10,659 |
| VA | 6,553 | 6,554 | 4,840 | 4,959 |
| CA, TN, & WV | 11,518 | 11,215 | *9,718 | 9,925 |
| 15 State Total | 182,562 | 183,772 | *141,374 | 141,127 |
| Previous Year | 181,421 | 184,036 | 142,736 | 144,008 |
| Pct. of Prev. | 101 | 100 | 99 | 98 |

*REVISED

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 15-Apr-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 149.3 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 150.4 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 150.4 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 149.7 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 54.61 CENTS PER POUND.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES-

WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES

(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING WEEK OF 03/02/00-03/08/00

| | SE | | NE | | MW | | LOADS |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | ORG | DST | ORG | DST | ORG | DST | |
| GNR W 1 | 28.67 | 37.00 | 29.67 | 31.11 | 32.00 | 33.75 | 43.00 |
| GNR W 2 | — | 32.00 | 29.00 | 32.25 | 28.47 | 31.10 | 21.00 |
| GNR W 3 | — | — | — | — | 22.63 | 25.13 | 5.00 |
| GL W XL | — | 38.00 | 37.00 | 41.81 | 38.97 | 40.00 | 18.25 |
| GL W LG | 36.00 | 38.80 | 37.00 | 39.67 | 35.24 | — | 25.00 |
| GL W MD | 25.00 | 27.00 | 25.60 | 27.50 | 26.33 | 26.50 | 20.25 |
| GL W SM | 19.75 | — | 19.83 | 21.33 | 21.00 | — | 4.75 |
| GL BR LG | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1.00 |
| NRBS - 48 | — | — | 26.60 | 30.00 | 26.89 | 28.69 | 23.50 |
| NRBS - 45 | — | — | — | 30.00 | 23.50 | — | 1.00 |

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 04-MAR-00

| SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS | CW THOUSANDS | PW THOUSANDS | PERCENT PW | CHG LY |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|
| ATLANTA | 22.0 | 21.1 | 4 | -24 |
| BOSTON | 4.3 | 3.7 | 16 | -4 |
| CHICAGO | 54.7 | 43.7 | 25 | -6 |
| DETROIT | 25.1 | 26.3 | -5 | -7 |
| KANSAS CITY | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 |
| LOS ANGELES | 105.3 | 91.3 | 15 | 27 |
| NEW ORLEANS | 16.0 | 8.4 | 90 | -18 |
| NEW YORK | 37.1 | 35.7 | 4 | -18 |
| ST. LOUIS | 15.8 | 14.1 | 12 | -2 |
| SAN FRANCISCO | 21.7 | 23.2 | -6 | -2 |
| TOTAL | 302.1 | 267.6 | 13 | -1 |
| 4 WK MVG AVG | 277.9 | | | |

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED

Week Ending 26-FEB-00

| | YOUNG(A) | YOUNG BREEDERS | OLD BREEDERS | TOTAL |
|------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|
| | THOUSANDS | | | |
| HEAD | 5,350 | 2 | 58 | 5,410 |
| AVG WT | 25.67 | 24.00 | 25.40 | 25.67 |
| LAST WEEK | 4,399 | 5 | 2 | 4,406 |
| SAME WEEK YR AGO | 4,821 | 23 | 37 | 4,881 |
| AVG WT | 25.20 | 26.74 | 27.38 | 25.23 |
| TO-DATE/2000 | 36,132 | 39 | 304 | 36,560 |
| TO-DATE/1999 | 36,469 | 134 | 244 | 36,847 |

(A) Includes 85,000 fryer/roasters in 2000 and 0,000 in 1999.

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 26-FEB-00

(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

| —YOUNG TURKEYS— | | | | FRYER | OLD | TOTAL | TKY |
|-----------------|-----------|------|-------|-----------------|------|--------|-------|
| THOUSAND | PW | AVG | WT | RSTR | BAND | HEAD | AVG |
| HEAD | % CHG | WT | | —THOUSAND HEAD— | | | |
| N EAST | 833 | -41 | 22.03 | NONE | NONE | 833 | 22.03 |
| S ATL | 1,412 | 180 | 23.41 | (A) | (A) | 1,421 | 23.42 |
| N CENT | 2,162 | 15 | 29.85 | (A) | (A) | 2,204 | 29.75 |
| S CENT | 625 | 6 | 22.75 | NONE | NONE | 625 | 22.75 |
| WEST | 320 | 4471 | 22.59 | (A) | (A) | 327 | 22.76 |
| U.S.TOTAL | 5,352(B) | 11 | 25.67 | 0 | 58 | 5,410 | 25.67 |
| TO DATE | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | 36,171(B) | | | 85 | 304 | 36,560 | |
| TO DATE | | | | | | | |
| 1999 | 31,759(B) | | | 0 | 244 | 36,847 | |

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 2,000 for the year 39,000; last year to date 134,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 05-Mar-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

| | YOUNG CHICKENS | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS | DUCKS |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| | -----THOUSANDS----- | | | | |
| HEAD | 154,916(A) | 2,111 | 1,361 | 3,472 | 433 |
| AVG WT | 5.20 | 3.40 | 7.79 | 5.12 | 6.52 |
| LAST WEEK | 152,233 | 1,915 | 1,349 | 3,264 | 394 |
| YR AGO | 149,611 | 1,928 | 1,348 | 3,276 | 454 |
| AVG WT | 4.94 | 3.38 | 7.63 | 5.13 | 6.65 |
| TO-DATE/2000 | 1,383,434 | 18,255 | 12,011 | 30,266 | 4,160 |
| TO-DATE/1999 | 1,353,624 | 19,523 | 11,933 | 31,456 | 4,254 |

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 153.3 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 156.8 million head or 3.5 million head more than or 102 percent of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 11-Mar-00

| | CURRENT WEEK 03/11/00(1) | PREVIOUS WEEK 03/04/00 |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| | -----THOUSAND HEAD----- | |
| CLASS | | |
| BRO-FRY | 155,444(2) | 156,481 |
| LT HENS | 2,118 | 2,133 |
| HVY HENS | 1,615 | 1,451 |
| TOTAL | 159,177 | 160,065 |

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 11-Mar-00 is 153.8 million head compared to 152.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 157.3 million head or 3.5 million more than estimated available. For week of 18-Mar-00 the estimated available is 153.3 million head.

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

| WEEK ENDING | | MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED | MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE | PCT | AVG WT |
|--------------|----|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----|--------|
| JANUARY | 29 | 146.1 | 151.7 | 96 | 4.89 |
| FEBRUARY | 5 | 162.7 | 152.4 | 107 | 5.16 |
| | 12 | 157.9 | 152.1 | 104 | 4.87 |
| | 19 | 157.1 | 152.5 | 103 | 5.10 |
| | 26 | 154.1 | 152.7 | 101 | 4.97 |
| MARCH | 4 | 156.8 | 153.3 | 102 | 5.20 |
| YEAR TO DATE | | 1400.3 | 1358.1 | 103 | |
| MARCH | 11 | | 153.8 | | |
| | 18 | | 153.3 | | |

12-CITY COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

| | Change from | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| 6-Mar-00 | 28-Feb-00 | 28-Feb-00 | 8-Mar-99 |
| 54.24 | 1.20 | 53.04 | 57.32 |
| NUMBER OF LOADS | 645 | | |

READY-TO-COOK POULTRY BROILER/FRYERS

FINAL REPORT OF PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR TRUCKLOT SALES OF READY-TO-COOK ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED B/F TO BE DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS WEEK OF 03/06/00-03/11/00.

| | U.S. GRADE A | COMPOSITE | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| | MAJ WTD AVG | LDS WTD AVG | LDS |
| Chicago | 42.00-45.00 | 45.65 | 44 |
| Los Angeles | 62.00 | 60.98 | 62 |
| New York | 45.00-48.00 | 47.65 | 34 |
| | | 52.07 | 81 |

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

| | OFFERS | SALES | WTD AVG | LBS (000) |
|--|--------|-------|------------|--------------|
|--|--------|-------|------------|--------------|

CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/

8-16 LB HENS

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------|---|---|---|
| EASTERN REGION 3/ | 64-65.5 | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION 4/ | 63-64.5 | - | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION 5/ | 64-65.5 | - | - | - |

16-24 LB TOMS

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------|---|---|---|
| EASTERN REGION | 61-63.5 | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION | 61-62.5 | - | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION | 61-63.5 | - | - | - |

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS -

SELECTED STGE CENTERS FEDERAL-STATE (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

| | FREGS LBS | TURKS LBS | POP LBS |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| AM 6-Mar-00 | 4,825 | 115,238 | 79,365 |
| AM 1-Feb-00 | 4,916 | 94,257 | 72,756 |
| CHG | -91 | 20,981 | 6,609 |
| PCT CHG | -2 | 22 | 9 |

Based on the historical relationship of the preliminary U.S. Cold Storage holdings report of January 31, 2000 and the selected centers storage report, the expected U.S. holdings on March 1, 2000 are:

| | | |
|-------------|-----|--------------------------------|
| FROZEN EGGS | 11 | MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS 5.04 PCT |
| TURKS | 374 | MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS 4.98 PCT |
| POP | 872 | MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS 4.99 PCT |

HEN MARKETS

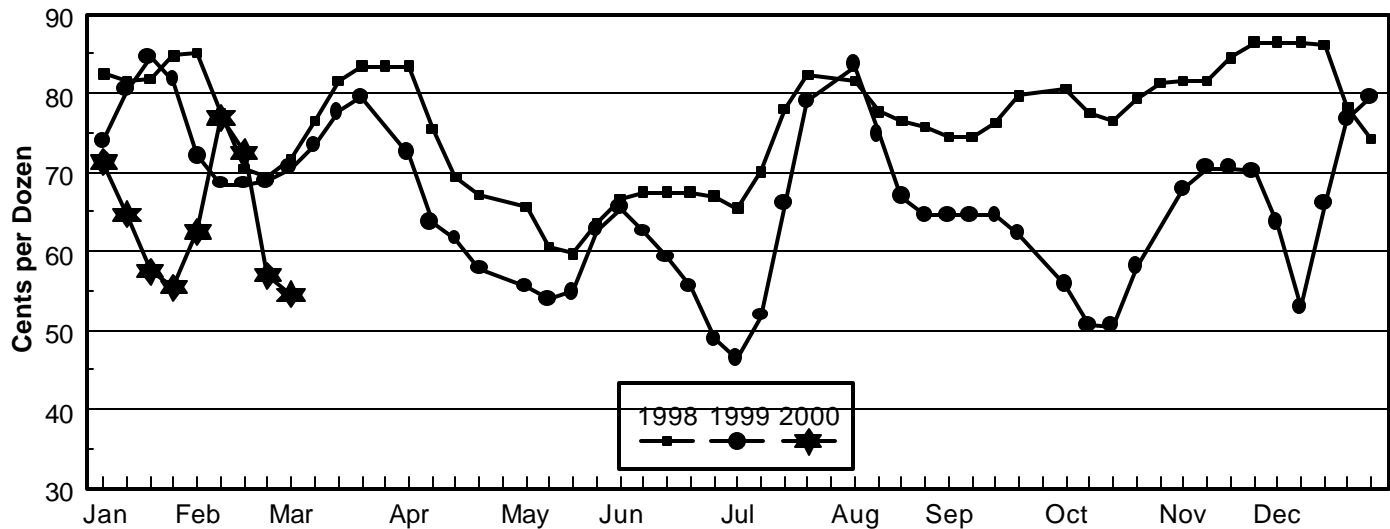
Cents Per Pound, Generally for slaughter the following week.

| | HEAVY TYPE | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------|
| 03/06/00 | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD. AVG |
| Southeast | 7-15(1) | 8.25-11.75 | 10.46 |
| Southeast | TFEWR(2) | | |
| South Central | 8.75-14.25(1) | 11-12 | 11.48 |
| 03/03/00 | LIGHT TYPE | | |
| Eastern | 0(1) | | |
| Eastern | 0 2) | | |
| So. Central | TFEWR(2) | | |
| No. Central | TFEWR(1) | | |
| No. Central | 0-5(2) | 0 | |
| (1) At Farm Buyer Loading | | | |
| (2) At Farm Producer Loading | | | |

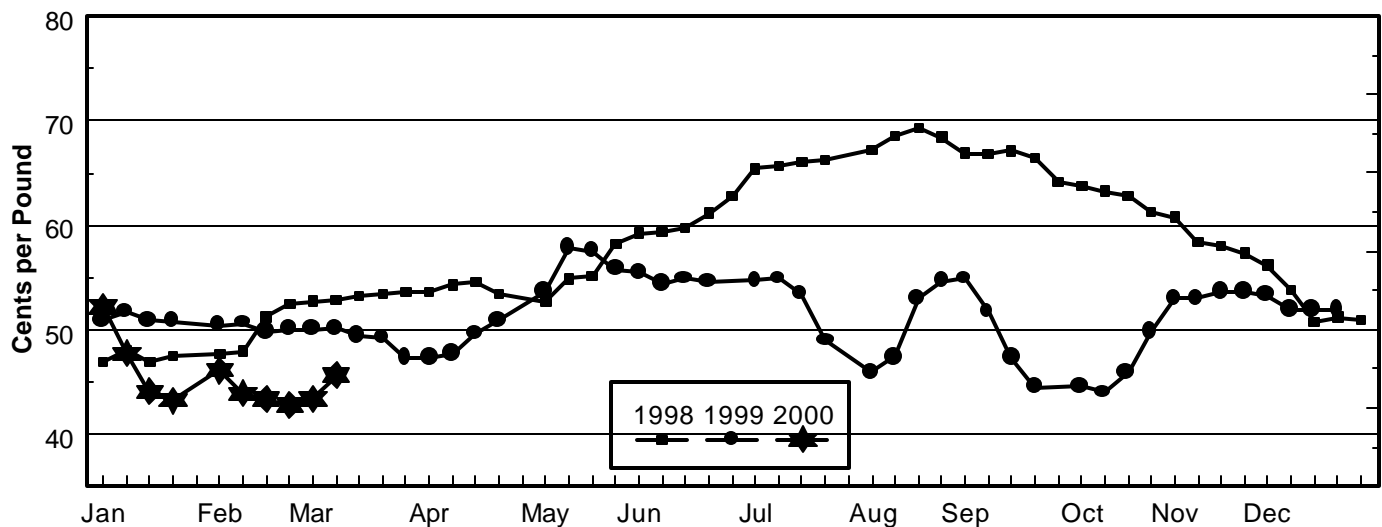
USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

| | | | |
|----------------|----------|---------------|---------------------|
| Washington, DC | Voice | (202)720-6911 | Grover T. Hunter |
| | Fax | (202)720-2403 | (Chief) |
| Atlanta, GA | Voice | (404)562-5850 | Johnny Freeman |
| | Fax | (404)562-5875 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (404)562-5856 | |
| Jackson, MS | Voice | (601)965-4662 | Gary Brown |
| | Fax | (601)965-4661 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| Des Moines, IA | Voice | (515)284-4471 | Mary L. Adkins |
| | Fax | (515)284-4468 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (515)284-4545 | |
| Bell, CA | Voice | (323)269-4154 | Jim Derby |
| | Fax | (323)269-5926 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (323)260-4676 | |

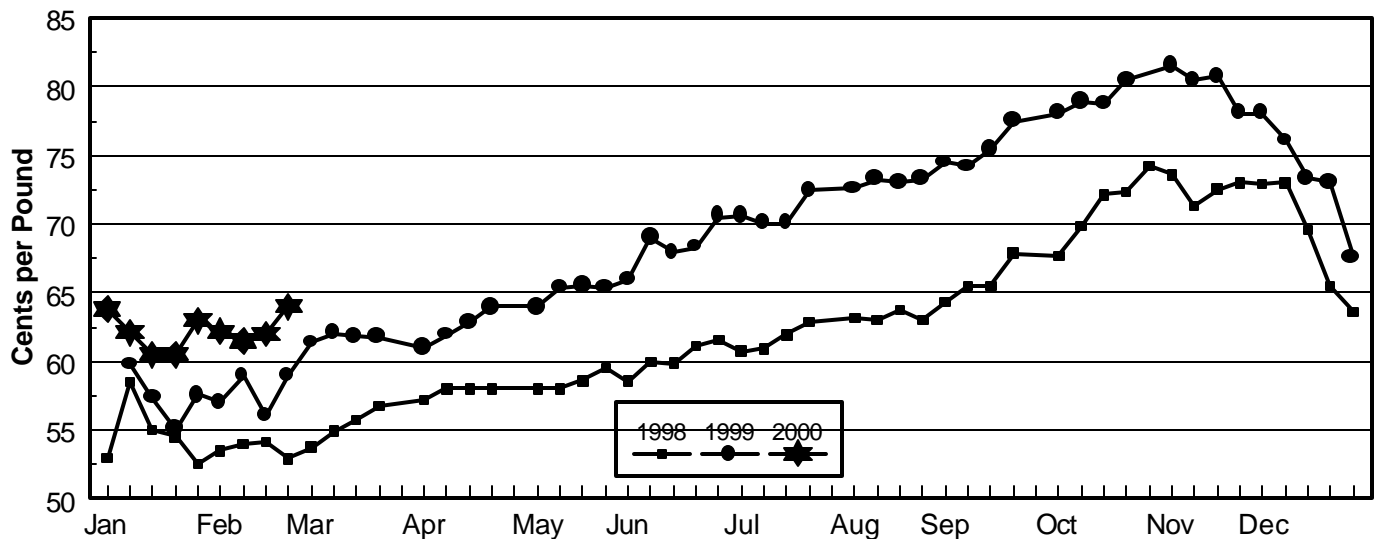
New York Large Egg Weekly Average Price, 1998, 1999, 2000



Chicago Broiler/Fryer Final Weighted Average Prices, US Grade A, 1998, 1999, 2000



Eastern Region Weekly Average Prices for 8-16 LB Hen Turkeys, 1998, 1999, 2000



Note: Some weeks' averages are based on offers only.